

## Wolfowitz assesses progress in Afghanistan

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**KABUL, Afghanistan**- Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, spent the day in Afghanistan Wednesday, speaking with dignitaries and touring various project sites. His visit to the nation was a fact-finding mission to assess the progress Afghanistan has made in the past six months.

In addition to speaking to Afghanistan's Minister of Defense, Fahim Khan, and president Hamid Karzai, Wolfowitz talked with locals, U.S. troops and the newest trainees of the Afghan National Army about how far this country has come and the U.S. Defense Department's plans for Afghanistan.

"I remember someone told me that a few years ago, Afghanistan rated 169 out of 174 countries in the world in terms of the index of human development because of 20 years of war and devastation," said



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

*Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, commends an Afghan local for a mine-clearing job well done at the Ring Road Mine Clearing Construction Site, Wednesday.*

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## SASC members back transformation, base closures

By Gerry J. Gilmore  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON**—Four new members of the Senate Armed Services Committee today said they support DoD's transformation efforts, noting another round of base closings is necessary.

Sens. Saxby Chambliss of Georgia, Elizabeth Dole of North Carolina, John Ensign of Nevada and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina spoke with reporters outside the Pentagon after attending a breakfast meeting with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

Rumsfeld "is doing a great job

operating our military in these difficult times," Ensign declared, adding that he and his colleagues are also excited about the secretary's reform of the military.

"It's important that the military be good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars," Ensign said, noting that Rumsfeld's battles against bureaucracy and inefficiencies will greatly improve the Defense Department. "(He) has the right ideas ... changing the way personnel are managed, changing the way we run our bases."

Dole, Chambliss and Graham said they agreed with Ensign.

The senators' meeting with

Rumsfeld was "very productive," Dole remarked, adding she has great confidence in the defense secretary "as he moves forward with transformation to meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century."

Many changes have already been made across DoD, Dole noted, such as improved financial management.

Chambliss gave kudos to Rumsfeld for operating the Pentagon like a business. "It is a big business and this (defense) secretary is doing all the things, in my opinion, to move us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century," he said.

Chambliss said Rumsfeld is

making the right changes to transform the military into a "leaner and meaner" force that's capable of winning "every single battle that this military is faced with."

DoD under Rumsfeld, Graham said, is "challenging the Congress to give them the tools to be more flexible, to save money and be more efficient." Such tools, he implied, may involve legislation to change personnel rules for hiring and firing of DoD civilians. For example, Gov. Tom Ridge has already asked for and received from Congress more flexible personnel

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# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



A U.N. weapons inspector hands over an Iraqi warhead to be examined.

## Iraqi warheads and tougher talk

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — As U.N. weapons inspections in Iraq entered a new level Thursday, one team discovered empty chemical warheads and international officials began talking tougher about Iraq's responsibility to be more forthcoming about its disarmament efforts in order to avoid a possible military confrontation.

In another milestone Thursday, U.N. inspectors paid their first-ever visit to the private homes of Iraqi scientists as part of the hunt for evidence of weapons of mass destruction. The homes were not listed as declared sites by Iraq, suggesting that inspectors may be working on an intelligence tip.

About 150 kilometers (93 miles) southwest of Baghdad, another team of arms inspectors found 11 empty chemical warheads and another one that needed further evaluation at the Ukhaider ammunition storage area, according to a U.N. spokesman, who said they were all in "excellent condition."

Dimitri Perricos, leader of the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, or UNMOVIC, said the find may not be a "smoking gun" that indicates Iraq had violated U.N. resolutions.

## Man in kidnapping, prostitution case pleads not guilty

**DETROIT, Michigan** — A 32-year-old man pleaded not guilty Thursday to charges he operated a cult-like kidnapping and prostitution ring discovered earlier this week.

Michigan prosecutors said others will face charges as well.

Henry Charles Davis, of Chicago, Illinois, faces nine counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, kidnapping, pandering, transporting a female for purposes of prostitution and accepting proceeds from prostitution.

He remained jailed in Detroit Thursday afternoon.

## Ricin suspects linked to al-Qaida

**WASHINGTON** — U.S. intelligence has evidence of connections between four people charged with possessing chemical weapons in London and a senior al-Qaida leader, officials tell CNN.

The four men were arrested during a Jan. 5 raid by British police on two addresses in north and east London where traces of ricin, one of the world's deadliest poisons, were discovered.

Now U.S. officials say they believe the suspects can be tied to al Qaeda, specifically "associates" of senior al Qaeda figure Abu Mussab al Zarqawi, a senior official tells CNN.

Zarqawi has also been connected, officials say, by intelligence in U.S. hands, to those involved in the October assassination in Amman, Jordan of American diplomat Lawrence Foley.

However, the official says there is no evidence to date of a link between the ricin suspects and the Ansar al Islam group which holds a tiny piece of northern Iraq and is fighting with the Kurds who control the rest of the north. The only, "very indirect" connection, officials say, is the evidence Zarqawi may have travelled to Ansar's enclave in the past.

## Victim families sue gun maker

Relatives of two men killed during the series of sniper killings in the Washington, D.C. area filed suit Thursday against the gun dealer and manufacturer of the rifle used in the attacks.

The plaintiffs are the relatives of James Buchanan, Jr. — a 39-year-old landscaper killed Oct. 3, 2002 — and Conrad Johnson, a

35-year-old bus driver and father of two killed Oct. 22, 2002. Both men were killed in Montgomery County, Md., during the string of shootings that left 10 people dead and three wounded.

The claim, filed in Washington state for an unspecified amount, charges that the defendants "have intentionally and willfully chosen to sell and distribute firearms in a grossly negligent manner that circumvents established laws and policies of the United States and the State of Washington that are intended to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous persons."



Seoul has staged civil defense drills for many years in case of attack from the North.

## S. Korea ready for the worst

**SEOUL, South Korea** — South Korea's armed forces are ready for any eventuality, including the "worst case scenario," should nuclear tensions between the North and the United States escalate into a full-blown war, the South's defense minister has said.

Speaking in parliament in Seoul on Thursday, Defense Minister Lee Jun said that if the current crisis could not be resolved peacefully and America were to attack the North, "war on the Korean peninsula will be unavoidable."

"Our army is prepared for the worst-case scenario," he said.

Lee's comments follow weeks of escalating tensions between Washington and Pyongyang over the North's alleged nuclear weapons program.



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rules for government workers joining the Department of Homeland Security.

Some of Rumsfeld's requests of Congress "will challenge us as politicians ... because he's asking us to look at closing some facilities," Graham explained. He noted Rumsfeld's also asking for changes in the law to give DoD more power to hire and fire civilian employees than currently exists.

Regarding future base closings, including overseas installations, he noted, "Everything is on the table."

However, Dole pointed out, any discussion now about base closings would be premature.

About 20 percent of stateside military bases "probably need to be closed," Ensign emphasized. "That's going to cause a lot of political heartburn." That's because the last BRAC, in 1995, was politicized, he said.

Congress members considering military transformation issues today "need to be operating in a bipartisan fashion, because ... the most important job of the federal government is defending the country through the military," Ensign noted.

Powell Moore, assistant secretary of defense for legislative affairs, introduced the new SASC members to reporters. He noted the other new committee members for the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress had been invited, but couldn't attend because of scheduling conflicts.

"We do everything here on a bipartisan basis," he said.



Photo by Gerry J. Gilmore

*Sens. Saxby Chambliss of Georgia (from left to right), Elizabeth Dole of North Carolina, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, and John Ensign of Nevada at podium, spoke with reporters outside the Pentagon Wednesday, after attending a breakfast meeting with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.*

## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR Building: "Men in Black II." While investigating a seemingly routine crime, Jay uncovers a diabolical plot masterminded by Serleena, an evil Kyotheian monster who disguises herself as a sexy lingerie model. It's a race against the clock as Jay must convince Kay to reunite with the MIB before Earth is destroyed completely.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Ballistic."



## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	Today	Saturday
<b>Bagram:</b>	Haze H: 48F L: 32F	Haze H: 48F L: 30F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	Haze H: 70F L: 43F	Haze H: 64F L: 37F
<b>Kabul:</b>	Haze H: 50F L: 30F	Haze H: 52F L: 30F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	Cloudy/rain H: 45F L: 34F	Cloudy/rain H: 52F L: 33F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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Wolfowitz. "Rebuilding is a process, but there is a good spirit in the people here, and with the help of the U.S. the job will get done."

As Wolfowitz toured numerous sites around Afghanistan, it was evident the rebuilding was getting off to a good start. The Ring Road Mine Clearing Construction teams, newest trainees of the ANA and the construction of the Rabia Balki Women's Hospital were proof that commonly known problems such as mines, lack of health care and poor government infrastructure are being remedied.

"We have a long way to go to rebuild, but we have come a long way," said Wolfowitz. "The Afghan people have done very well in the past year-and-a-half, and the U.S. will continue to help. We are not going away."

Afghanistan's MoD, agreed with Wolfowitz in that the most important focus for Afghanistan right now is not fighting but rebuilding.

"The fact that we have created an army to defend our country is good," said Khan. "However, our goal is not to turn the whole Afghan population into soldiers but into successful and prosperous communities."

Wolfowitz's last and perhaps most important visit was to the presidential palace to meet with the Afghani elected president, Karzai.

After speaking with Karzai and exchanging gifts, Wolfowitz spoke not only on the war on terrorism in Afghanistan but in other areas of the world that have become priorities for the U.S.

"The views of the press are not necessarily always those of the U.S. Defense Department," said Wolfowitz. "While Iraq is a priority for the U.S. it is not as big as some press agencies make it seem."

Wolfowitz said that even though the war on terrorism in Afghanistan is still important, it is not as high on the U.S.'s to-do list in the country as before.

"While the search for terrorists in Afghanistan will continue, the U.S. focus is steadily becoming more geared toward stability and reconstruction," said Wolfowitz.

"We don't make progress by saying what a wonderful job we have done, but by continuing to move forward," he said. "There's no way to move too fast with progress. The faster the better."



Photos by Pfc. Christina Carde

*Deputy Secretary of Defense, Paul Wolfowitz, and Afghan Minister of Defense Fahim Khan are given details for a live-fire exercise before the demonstration.*



*Wolfowitz speaks to trainees of the Afghan National Army after viewing a live-fire exercise, Wednesday. Wolfowitz told them the U.S. will continue to work with Afghanistan to ensure freedom and prosperity.*

## U.S. soldiers wounded in Afghanistan, but missions continue

By Kathleen T. Rhem  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** — Three U.S. soldiers were injured in two separate incidents Jan. 15 in Afghanistan.

Two special operations soldiers were injured at about 11:15 a.m. local Afghan time when a homemade bomb blew up under the vehicle they were riding in. A second bomb exploded and damaged another vehicle, but caused no injuries. A third,

undetonated device was also found, a military spokesman in Bagram said.

The explosions occurred roughly 50 miles northeast of Jalalabad.

The injured soldiers were taken to the U.S. Army hospital at Bagram Air Base, treated for minor injuries and released.

Another U.S. soldier was shot in the stomach at Kandahar Air Field shortly before 5 p.m. local time. Officials said the incident was not due to hostile

fire, but released no further details.

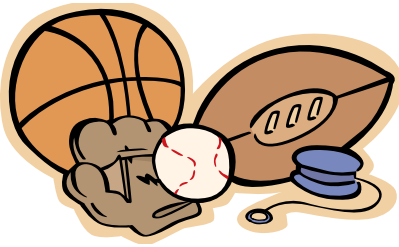
The forward surgical team at Kandahar operated on the soldier and then evacuated him to the Bagram hospital, where he was listed in critical, but stable, condition.

He was scheduled for evacuation today to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

U.S. military forces in Afghanistan continue to perform humanitarian missions. Ameri-

can medical personnel evacuated two Afghans, a 20-year-old man and a 10-year-old boy, from Deh Rawod to Kandahar Air Field shortly after midnight Jan. 16 local time. The two had been injured in a grenade blast. Military officials had no details on how the accident occurred or the extent of the Afghans' wounds.

U.S. troops later evacuated the two to the hospital at Bagram Air Base, where both are listed in stable condition.



# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

## Miller follows in his father's footsteps

**HONOLULU** — Andy Miller didn't care how long it took him to reach the PGA Tour. His father told him he had enough game to compete against the best players in the world, and that was good enough for him.

No one can argue with Johnny Miller on this one.

His 23-year-old son is among 23 tour rookies who will make their 2003 debut Thursday in the Sony Open, the first full-field event of the year.

"I'm not quite as brash as he was, but I'd like to be compared to him," Andy Miller said. "Hopefully, I can start knocking the pins off the greens."

Miller doesn't have his father's blond hair, and time will tell how much of his game was inherited. But the kid shares one trait with the former U.S. Open and British Open champion: He's not about to back down.

Miller's ranking out of Q-school, where he earned his card with two strokes to spare, is usually good enough to get into the Sony

Open. He booked his flight, reserved a room, then learned he was the seventh alternate.

"I said, 'What the heck, I can qualify for free. I'm going to Hawaii,'" he said.

## Serena motivated by sis; Seles out

**MELBOURNE, Australia** — Serena Williams is still trying to keep up with big sister Venus.

After beating Els Callens 6-4, 6-0 Thursday in the second round of the Australian Open, Serena admitted Venus' one-sided victory over Ansley Cargill the previous night inspired her.

"She played a great match, I was motivated after watching her, thinking, 'OK, she wants to be No. 1 again,'" said Serena, seeking her fourth straight Grand Slam title.

The top-ranked American's opener against Emilie Loit was too close for comfort. The Frenchwoman took her to three sets, pounding her with an aggressive forehand and frustrating her so much that she groaned an obscenity. She was warned for it and fined \$1,500 Thursday.

Serena jumped to No. 1 in the world with victories in the French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open, beating Venus in all three championship matches to set up a shot at the "Serena Slam."

"I have five more matches to go. It's going to be really tough," Williams said.



Serena Williams got a little revenge on Els Callens.



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By Kevin Kilgore

## Laugh Support

## Sports on local Armed Forces Network TV

### Saturday's schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ Milwaukee Bucks @ Philadelphia 76ers (live) 0000Z/0430L
- ❖ NFL Magazine (Tape delayed) 0300Z/0730L
- ❖ Australian Open Round 6 (live) 0430Z/0900L
- ❖ PGA, Sony Open (Tape delayed) 0800Z/1230L
- ❖ L.A. Lakers @ Houston Rockets (Tape delayed) 1200Z/1630L
- ❖ Illinois-Chicago @ Detroit Mercy (live) 1700Z/2130L
- ❖ Notre Dame @ Kentucky (live) 1900Z/2330L

### Sunday's schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ PGA, Sony Open (Live) 0000Z, 0430L
- ❖ Super Bowl XXXII Highlights (live) 0630Z/1100L
- ❖ Michigan State @ Minnesota (tape delayed) 0800Z/1230L
- ❖ Southern Illinois @ Chreighton (tape delayed) 1000Z/1430L
- ❖ Australian Open Round 7 (tape delayed) 1300Z/1730L
- ❖ Bowling PBA Masters (live) 1730Z/2200L
- ❖ Billiards, 2002 WPBA Nationals (live) 1900Z/2330L



# *Percussion Session*

## *crossword*

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

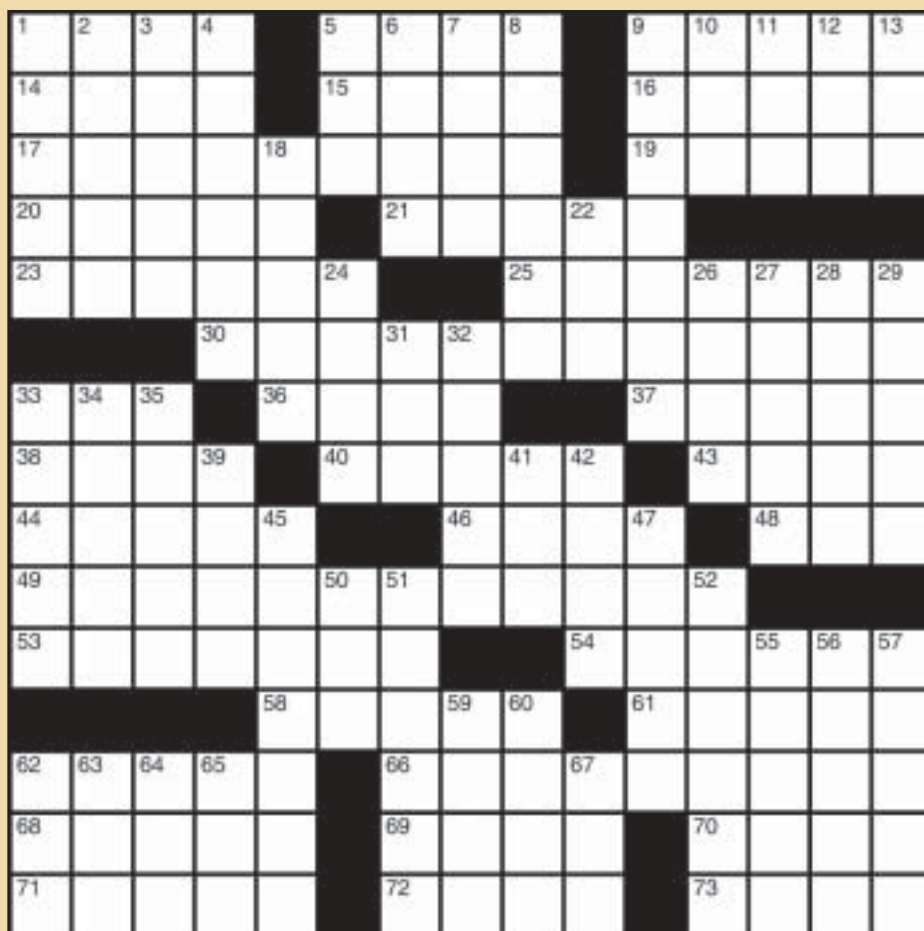
### Across

- 1 Carson's predecessor
- 5 Pacific tuber
- 9 Gene Tierney or Glenn Close
- 14 Cugat ex Lane
- 15 First family's garden
- 16 The first Mrs. Trump
- 17 Dancers in a single file
- 19 Boston airport
- 20 Makes level
- 21 Sugar-free
- 23 Judge anew
- 25 Liqueur flavoring source
- 30 Common soaps situation
- 33 Mushy fare
- 36 San \_\_ (Riviera resort)
- 37 Cheech of Cheech and Chong
- 38 Richard of "A Summer Place"
- 40 Elder statesman Thurmond

- 43 Royal pain
- 44 Violinist Mischa
- 46 Chowder morsel
- 48 Informal shirt
- 49 Restaurant table item
- 53 Many-time presidential hopeful Harold
- 54 Black Sea port
- 58 Honeybunch
- 61 Pertaining to base 8
- 62 Treat like dirt
- 66 Plot in a statistical graph
- 68 Clear moisture from
- 69 Con \_\_ (vigorously)
- 70 Stadium level
- 71 "Sing \_\_ with Mitch"
- 72 Kennel sounds
- 73 Mouth off to

### Down

- 1 Indiana hoopster



- 2 Beyond's partner
- 3 One of the Yokums
- 4 Pertaining to a sovereign
- 5 Business card abbr.
- 6 Score after deuce
- 7 Ashcroft's predecessor
- 8 Like a small garage
- 9 Penn of Pennsylvania
- 10 Lacto-\_\_-vegetarian
- 11 'Zine
- 12 Santa \_\_ winds
- 13 A Bobbsey
- 18 John Jacob of fur fame
- 22 Singer DiFranco
- 24 Times to call, in ads
- 26 Ginger cookie
- 27 Long-plumed wader
- 28 Beethoven dedicatee
- 29 Al \_\_ (pasta order)
- 31 CPR expert
- 32 It's relayed to the Olympics
- 33 Chicks' calls
- 34 Shoelace tip
- 35 South American prairie
- 39 Gets forty winks
- 41 Schnozz extension?
- 42 Powerful shark
- 45 Savings for retirement, perhaps
- 47 Bordeaux wine
- 50 Vintage car
- 51 With one's nose in the air
- 52 Makes even shorter
- 55 Narrow groove
- 56 Socks away
- 57 Chisox and Bosox
- 59 Hatcher or Garr
- 60 Lose traction
- 62 Tooth care org.
- 63 \_\_ Paese cheese
- 64 Spooky sighting
- 65 Trinity member
- 67 \_\_ Gatos, Calif.

*Solutions will be posted in Saturday's Freedom Watch*